OMB DIRECTOR PORTMAN PRAISES CONGRESS FOR KEEPING SPENDING BILL ON TARGET

WASHINGTON – Today, OMB Director Rob Portman issued the following statement on H.R. 4939, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Hurricane Recovery, 2006.

“Congress provided needed support to the troops fighting the War on Terror, to protect against a possible avian flu pandemic, and to continue the recovery in the Gulf – all while holding the line on spending.

“During consideration of this measure, President Bush made it clear he would veto any bill that exceeded his requested funding level. I applaud the House and Senate leadership, and Committee Chairmen Lewis and Cochran, for delivering a final product that reflects this fiscal discipline.

“Spending restraint is absolutely essential if we are to meet the President's goal of cutting the deficit in half, and I will work with lawmakers – Democrats and Republicans – to tighten our budget belt.”

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